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A NEW SPECIES OF *LOBELIA* (CAMPANULACEAE) FROM OAXACA, MEXICO

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ABSTRACT

Lobelia hintoniorum B.L. Turner, *spec. nov.* from Distrito Miahuatlán, Oaxaca, is described and illustrated. It belongs to the sect. *Hemipogon*, subsect. *Leiospermae*, where it relates to *L. occidentalis* McVaugh. It differs from the latter in possessing very large dark blue corollas and nonhispidulous anthers.

KEY WORDS: Campanulaceae, *Lobelia*, México, Oaxaca, systematics

Routine identification of Mexican lobelioids has revealed the following novelty.

LOBELIA HINTONIORUM B.L. Turner, *spec. nov.* Figure 1. TYPE: MEXICO. Oaxaca: Distrito Miahuatlán, S side of Cerro Quiexobra, 1-3 km NE of La Cieneguilla on road to summit, in damp ravines below understory of pine-oak forests, 2900 m, 2 Oct 1990, *Andrew McDonald 2982* (HOLOTYPE: TEX).

Similis *L. occidentali* McVaugh & Huft sed foliis midcaulis majoribus, ([6-]12-15 cm longis vice 4-10 cm longis), pedunculis valde majoribus (5-6 cm longis vice 2.5-4.0 cm longis), tubis corollarum longioribus (12-15 mm longis vice 7-9 mm longis), et sacculis superis antherarum glabris (vice sacculorum hispidorum).

Weakly ascending or procumbent herbs to 60 cm high arising from slender rhizomes, forming colonies. Midstems 1-3 mm across, glabrous. Midstem leaves glabrous, mostly linear to linear-lanceolate, gradually reduced upwards, (5-)6-15 cm long, 0.3-0.7 cm wide, remotely denticulate. Inflorescence of (2-)5-25 flowers, when numerous the latter disposed in a secund fashion. Bracts linear, mostly 1/2 as long as the pedicels, or more. Pedicels of mature flowers mostly upwardly arcuate, 2-6 cm long. Ovary ca. 1/3 to 1/2 inferior, the calyx cup ca. 2 mm high, glabrous, the lobes

Figure 1. *Lobelia hintoniorum*, from holotype.

linear-lanceolate, 4-6 mm long, reflexing with age. Corollas dark blue, the tubes 12-16 mm long, not fenestrate, the dorsal slit 9-11 mm deep; upper two lobes linear-lanceolate, 6-8 mm long; lower 3 lobes neatly elliptical, 7-10 mm long, 2.5-4.0 mm wide. Filaments ca. 10 mm long, united for ca. 4 mm apically; anthers 3-4 mm long, the lower 2 tufted, otherwise glabrous. Fruits not available.

ADDITIONAL SPECIMENS EXAMINED: MEXICO. Oaxaca: Distrito Miahuatlán, Quiexobra, 2920 m, 14 Oct 1995, *Hinton et al. 26104* (TEX); Siete Ocotes, 2950 m, 20 Oct 1995, *Hinton et al. 26256* (TEX); Siete Ocotes, 2880 m, *Hinton et al. 26265* (TEX).

Lobelia hintoniorum clearly belongs to the sect. *Hemipogon* subsect. *Leiospermae* (sensu Wimmer 1953) where it relates to *L. occidentalis* McVaugh and *L. dielsiana* Wimmer. McVaugh (1975) provided a detailed key to both of these taxa. In this, *L. hintoniorum*, because of its very large corollas, will key to *L. sublibera* S. Wats., a very distinctive species confined to northeastern México (Nuevo León and Tamaulipas). *Lobelia hintoniorum* has the habit, leaves, and general inflorescence of *L. occidentalis*, but differs in the characters called to the fore in my diagnosis.

It is a pleasure to name this taxon for the Hinton family, who collected three of the only four collections known to me. Label data on the Hinton material report the species to form scattered but common procumbent plants or colonies to 60 cm high. *Hinton 26104* is a depauperate plant with relatively small leaves, but its flowers are typical of the taxon concerned.

The type of *Lobelia hintoniorum* was obtained by Andrew McDonald in 1990 (from among whose many collections I named *Lobelia macdonaldii* B.L. Turner), but this collection remained unnamed awaiting additional material. The several Hinton specimens cited above leave little doubt that the taxon is quite distinct and undescribed.

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